

APPENDIX A SCOPING LETTER AND DISTRIBUTION LISTS

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) mailed the scoping letter shown below to the businesses, agencies, and organizations shown in the mailing list that follows the letter. In addition, DOE mailed the scoping letter to all known Pleasant View residential addresses.

SCOPING LETTER



Department of Energy

Golden Field Office
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, Colorado 80401-3305

September 4, 2008

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SUBJECT: Notice of Public Scoping for the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment Supplement for Proposed Site Development Projects at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory South Table Mountain Site:

- Energy Systems Integration Facility,
- Site Infrastructure Improvements,
- Southern Site Entrance from South Golden Road,
- Expansion of the Waste Handling Facility, and
- Expansion of the Visitors Center

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) will be preparing a second Supplement to its Site-wide Environmental Assessment (EA) of the NREL South Table Mountain Complex (DOE/EA 1440, July 2003). This EA Supplement II will analyze the proposed Energy Systems Integration Facility, site infrastructure improvements, a southern site entrance from South Golden Road, and the expansion of the Waste Handling Facility and Visitors Center. DOE is seeking public input on this environmental assessment supplement. A description of the site and the proposed site development projects is included in an attachment to this letter. Specifically, DOE is seeking public comment on the proposed actions and alternatives, and the environmental issues to be addressed in the EA Supplement II.

Pursuant to the requirements of NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and DOE's implementing procedures for compliance with NEPA (10 CFR Part 1021), DOE is preparing a draft EA Supplement II to:

- Identify any adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided should this proposed action be implemented.
- Evaluate viable alternatives to the proposed action, including a no action alternative.
- Describe the relationship between local short-term uses of the environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.
- Characterize any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved should this proposed action be implemented.

Federal Recycling Program



Printed on Recycled Paper

The DOE Golden Field Office welcomes your input throughout the NEPA Process. DOE plans to complete the draft EA for public review by December 2008. Public scoping comments on the EA Supplement II will be accepted for a period of 30 days. Please submit your comments regarding this scoping document by **October 10, 2008**, to:

NREL NEPA Comments
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
1617 Cole Boulevard – MS 730,
Golden, CO 80401-3393,
(303) 275-4002 (fax),
Email: NREL.NEPA.comments@nrel.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S Blazek", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer

Enclosure

cc: Maureen Jordan
Senior Environmental Scientist
NREL

ATTACHMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SUPPLEMENT FOR PROPOSED SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AT THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN SITE:

- ENERGY SYSTEMS INTEGRATION FACILITY,
- SITE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS,
- SOUTHERN SITE ENTRANCE FROM SOUTH GOLDEN ROAD,
- EXPANSION OF THE WASTE HANDLING FACILITY, AND
- EXPANSION OF THE VISITORS CENTER

SITE BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is one of twelve Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratories and is dedicated to the research, development, and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. The laboratory is comprised of three main sites: 1) South Table Mountain (STM); 2) Denver West Office Park (DWOP), and 3) the National Wind Technology Center (NWTCT).

NREL conducts research activities at the STM site in support of the following DOE research programs:

- Solar Energy Technologies
- Geothermal Technologies
- Distributed Energy, Electrical Infrastructure and Reliability . Biomass
- Industrial Technologies
- Freedom Car and Vehicle Technology
- Hydrogen, Fuel Cells and Infrastructure Technologies
- Buildings Technologies
- Weatherization and Intergovernmental Grants
- Federal Energy Management
- Other DOE Sponsored Programs
- Work for Others Supporting the DOE Mission

Additional detail regarding NREL's mission and research programs is available on the website at: www.nrel.gov.

The 327-acre STM site is located on the southeast side of South Table Mountain, north of Interstate 70 and west of the Interstate 70 and Denver West Boulevard interchange in unincorporated Jefferson County, near Golden, Colorado (Legal description: Township 3 S, Range 70 W, Section 36, and Township 4 S, Range 70 W, Section 1) (See Figure 1). Only a portion of the site, 136 acres, is available for development. A total of 177 acres is protected by a conservation easement, and development on the remaining 14 acres is restricted by utility easements. The community of Pleasant View is adjacent to the southern border of the STM site. The STM site includes acreage on the South Table

Mountain mesa top, slope, and toe, and was formerly part of the Colorado National Guard facility at Camp George West. There are currently seven laboratory buildings, a few small test facilities, and several support buildings on the site.

PURPOSE AND NEED

A Site-Wide Environmental Assessment (EA) for the STM and the DWOP was prepared in 2003 that evaluated the existing and proposed facilities as well as the operation of the site. A supplement to the Site-Wide EA was completed in May 2008 (Supplement I, DOE-EA-144-S-I). The 2003 Site-Wide EA provides a detailed framework under which the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action will be evaluated. As was the case for Supplement I, activities evaluated in this EA Supplement II are those for which there is either current funding or there is a high likelihood of receiving funding in the near term. Further site development activities will be evaluated in future EA Supplements as funding for future projects is obtained and project designs and schedules are identified.

The subjects of this EA Supplement II include an Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF), site infrastructure improvements, a southern site entrance from South Golden Road, and expansion of both the Waste Handling Facility and Visitors Center at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory South Table Mountain Site.

This EA Supplement II will provide an opportunity to review the potential effects of constructing and operating these proposed actions. The purpose and need for the Proposed Actions is to: 1) provide additional research and development capabilities, 2) upgrade and expand portions of the existing infrastructure, including the handling of site generated wastes 3) prepare the site for future development, and alleviate projected traffic impacts associated with future growth, and 4) expand the site's ability to provide visitor access to NREL activities.

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The following presents a summary of the Proposed Action and the No Action alternative descriptions.

Proposed Action

Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF). NREL is proposing to design, construct and operate a 'first of its kind' integrated test and validation facility for distributed renewable energy generation technologies being developed by EERE programs in partnership with industry. The federal government currently lacks a facility for designing and testing engineering optimized systems, testing integrated energy technologies, and simulating and or emulating new infrastructure scenarios. The lack of such a facility represents a key barrier to being able to meet national renewable energy goals. The proposed ESIF would allow DOE to optimize these technologies as part of a total energy system. Collecting both technical and economic data for business analysis would encourage integration of renewable energy technologies into energy production and

delivery systems at minimum cost and high system reliability. The ESIF would also allow U.S. industry members to insert their individual technologies into a controlled integrated energy system platform to test and optimize the technologies for earlier market penetration.

The ESIF is envisioned as a new 130,000 – 170,000 gross-square-foot facility with an additional 20,000 – 30,000 square feet for outdoor research test pads and associated infrastructure requirements (access road, service drives, etc.). The facility would provide research support space for up to 200 researchers. The facility would be designed to merit at least a “Gold” rating from the U.S. Green Building Council, in support of EERE’s goal to demonstrate energy efficient buildings with a lower impact on the environment.

The ESIF project would be a multi-year project with the design phase expected to start in 2009 and construction completion scheduled for December 2011. The actual location of the building would be selected during the design phase. The facility would most likely be placed on the North East quadrant of the existing STM campus, east of the existing Science and Technology Facility.

Infrastructure. Site infrastructure improvements would be designed to accommodate the ESIF and some of the additional future development envisioned at the STM site. Proposed infrastructure improvements include a North Loop Road, which would be approximately 1200 feet in length, approximately 4,000 feet of trenching for underground utility extensions, and up to 170,000 square feet of additional surface parking at the south end of the site. Denver West Boulevard, which currently runs through the campus, would remain. Additional onsite pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths, as well as a Commons Quad and an East Quad, would be developed. Additional improvements to the central arroyo and storm water detention are being considered as well.

Southern site entrance from South Golden Rd. In the traffic surveys completed by NREL in 2007 and 2008, the need for a third STM site entrance from the south was identified. This Supplement EA II will analyze the impacts of the options for an entrance connecting the site to South Golden Road.

Visitors Center Expansion. DOE is proposing to expand the existing NREL Visitors Center. The Visitors Center is currently about 6,500 square feet, and the expansion is anticipated to at least double the size of the facility. The added space could include a large conference room, additional office and indoor or outdoor exhibit space, and additional parking.

Waste Handling Facility Expansion. The current Waste Handling Facility is 1,065 square feet. This proposed expansion would provide a total of approximately 4,000 square feet for storage, packaging, and other hazardous waste activities to accommodate NREL’s increasing waste volumes that accompany overall Laboratory growth. Waste handling activities at NREL currently involve storage, preparation and packaging for transportation of waste to off-site disposal sites. No on-site waste treatment or disposal is proposed.

No Action

The No Action Alternative would add facilities and improve the infrastructure as proposed and assessed in EA Supplement I, but leave the remainder of the site in its current configuration. Specifically, the ESIF, infrastructure improvements would not be built, a new site entrance would not be created, and the Waste Handling Facility and Visitors Center would not be expanded.

ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

The Draft EA Supplement II will address direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives. Beneficial and adverse, on-site and off-site, construction, demolition, and operation and maintenance impacts will be discussed, as appropriate. The preliminary list of environmental topics to be addressed in the EA include:

- Land Use, Planning, Socioeconomics and Public Policy
- Traffic and Circulation
- Air Quality and Noise
- Visual Quality/Aesthetics
- Water Resources
- Soils and Geology
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Waste Management
- Public Facilities, Services and Utilities
- Energy
- Sustainability
- Risk Assessment
- Intentional Destructive Acts

SCHEDULE

DOE anticipates public distribution of the Draft EA Supplement II for comments by December 2008. Comments on the scoping letter and proposed action are requested by October 10, 2008. No formal public scoping meeting is currently planned for this project. The Draft EA Supplement II, when available, will be posted in the Department of Energy's Golden Field Office electronic reading room:

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/golden/reading room.aspx>

Please direct your comments to:

[NREL NEPA Comments](#)

Attachment – Notice of Public Scoping

4

National Renewable Energy Laboratory
1617 Cole Boulevard – MS 730
Golden, CO 80401-3393
(303) 275- 4002 (fax)
Email: NREL.NEPA.Comments@nrel.gov

FIGURES:

Figure 1 Regional Location Map, South Table Mountain Site

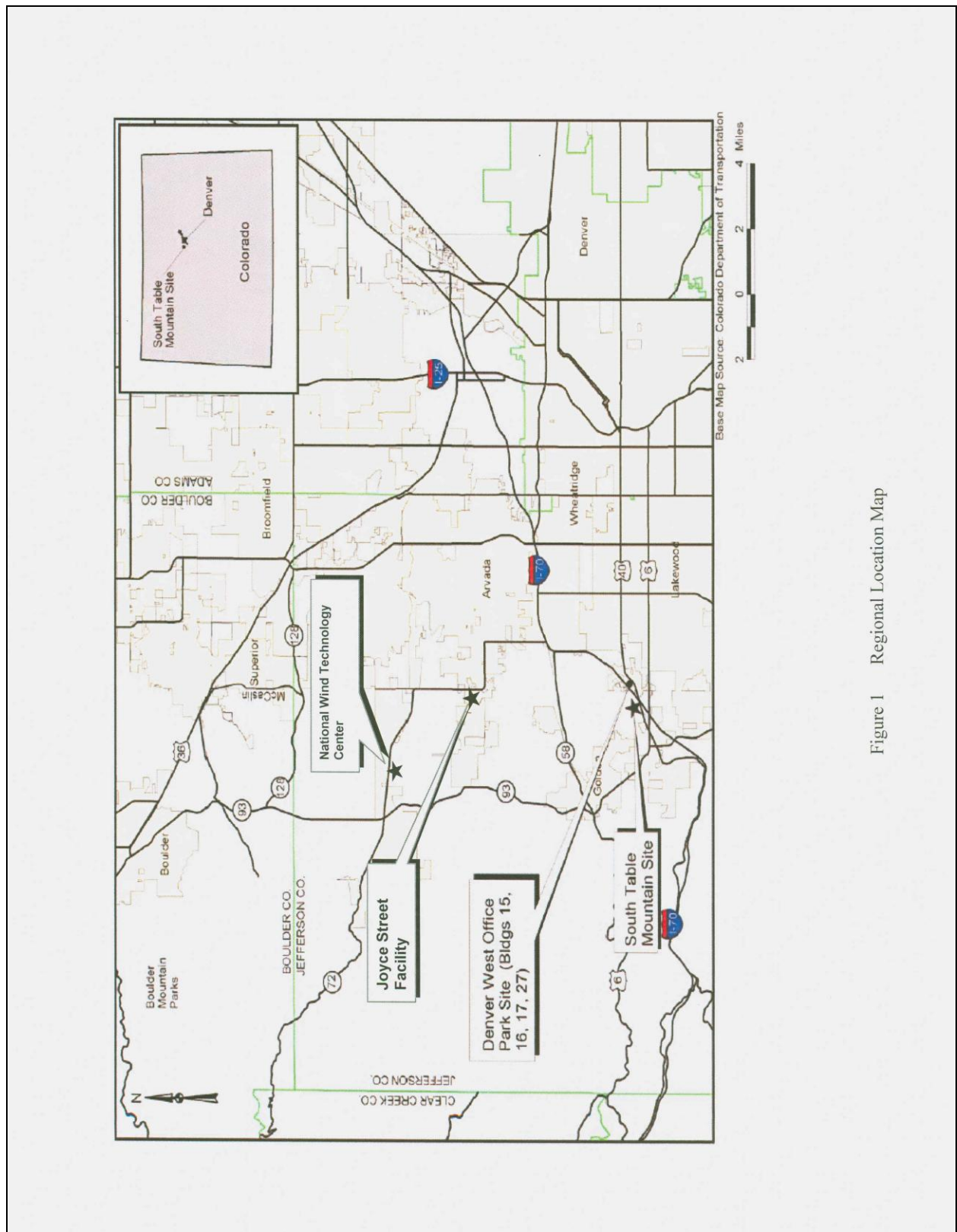


Figure 1 Regional Location Map

MAILING LIST – ORGANIZATIONS

Lissa Kendall
Environmental Defense
Colorado Regional Office
2334 North Broadway
Boulder, CO 80304

National Wildlife Federation
2260 Baseline Road, Ste. 100
Boulder, CO 80302

Mr. David Abelson
Rocky Flats Stewardship Council
PO Box 17670
Boulder, CO 80304

Judy Denison
Save the Mesas
1027 9th St.
Golden, CO 80401

Ms. Susan LeFever, Director
Sierra Club
1536 Wynkoop St., Ste. B400
Denver, CO 80202

Table Mountains Conservation Fund
PO Box 16201
Golden, CO 804026004

VFW Post # 4171
15625 W. 10th Ave.
Golden, CO 80401

Ms. Penny Anderson
Energy Program Coordinator
Western Resource Advocates
2260 Baseline Road, Ste. 200
Boulder, CO 80302

Mr. TJ Brown
Front Range Field Director
Colorado Environmental Coalition
1536 Wynkoop, 5C
Denver, CO 80202

John Litz
Colorado Citizens for Planned
Growth and Open Space
11010 W. 29th Avenue
Lakewood, CO 802157120

Jeffco Open Space Foundation, Inc.
5855 Wadsworth Bypass
Building A, Ste. 100
Arvada, CO 80003

Mr. Gary Wink
Golden Chamber of Commerce
1010 Washington Ave.
Golden, CO 80402

Mr. Dow Markin
Chair, Transportation Committee
Golden Chamber of Commerce
Box 341
Golden, CO 80402

Final Supplement-II to Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment:
National Renewable Energy Laboratory South Table Mountain Site

MAILING LIST - AGENCIES

Mr. Brian St. George
Bureau of Land Management
2850 Youngfield Street
Lakewood, CO 80215

Mr. James Martin
Office of Environmental Programs
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246

Mr. Gary Baughman, Div. Dir.
Haz. Materials & Waste Mgm't Div.
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1530

Mr. Paul Tourangeau, Div. Dir.
Air Pollution Control Division
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1530

Mr. Steve Gunderson, Div. Dir.
Water Quality Control Division
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1530

Mayor Jacob Smith
City of Golden
911 10th Street
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Vince Auriemma, Dep. Dir.
City of Golden
Public Works
1445 10th Street
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Steve Glueck, Director
City of Golden
Planning & Development
1455 10th Street
Golden, CO 80401

Mayor Bob Murphy
City of Lakewood
Lakewood Civic Center South
445 S. Allison Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80226-3127

Mr. Jay Hutchison
City of Lakewood Planning Dept.
480 S. Allison Parkway
Civic Center North
Lakewood, CO 80226

Dr. Dana L. Winkelman, Director
Colo. Coop. Fish & Wildlife Research Unit
201 JVK Wagar Building
CSU Campus Delivery 1484
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1484

Major Jeff Kleinholz
Colorado Correctional Center
15445 South Golden Road
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Jim Miller
Colorado Department of Agriculture
Dir. Of Policy & Communication
700 Kipling Street, Ste. 4000
Lakewood, CO 80215

Mr. Jim Paulmeno, Planning & Env. Mgr.
Colo. Dept. of Transportation
Region 6 Office
2000 South Holly Street
Denver, CO 80222

Ms. Rebecca Vickers
CDOT, Environmental Services
Empire Park, Bldg. B
4201 E. Arkansas Ave.
Denver, CO 80222

Colorado Dept. of Natural Resources
Executive Director's Office
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Mr. David Klute, State Raptor Biologist
Colorado Division of Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216

Mr. Tom Remington, Director
Colorado Division of Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216

Mr. Ralf Topper, Env. Specialist
Colorado Geological Survey
1313 Sherman Street, Rm 715
Denver, CO 80203

Mr. Tom Plant, Director
Governor's Energy Office
1580 Logan Street, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80203

West Metro Fire Protection District
447 S. Allison Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80226-3128

Mr. Jeff Stalter
Colorado Army National
Guard/Department of Military and Veterans
Affairs
6848 S. Revere Pkwy.
Centennial, CO 80112

Mr. Allen Gallamore
Colorado State Forest Service
Golden District Office
1504 Quaker Street
Golden, CO 80401-2956

Colorado State Land Board
1313 Sherman Street, Rm 621
Denver, CO 80203

Chief James M. Wolfinbarger
Colorado State Patrol
700 Kipling St.
Lakewood, CO 80215

Captain Brett Mattson
Colorado State Patrol
Golden District, Troop Office, 6A
1096 McIntyre St.
Golden, CO 80401

Captain Jon Barba
Colorado State Patrol Training Academy
15055 S. Golden Road
Golden, CO 80401

Ms. Kirsten Volpi, Sr. Vice President of
Finance and Administration
Colorado School of Mines
210 Guggenheim Building
1500 Illinois Street
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Walter S. Welton, President
Consolidated Mutual Water Company
12700 W. 27th Ave.
Lakewood, CO 80215

Mr. Hal Simpson, State Engineer
Division of Water Resources
1313 Sherman St., Rm 818
Denver, CO 80203

Final Supplement-II to Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment:
National Renewable Energy Laboratory South Table Mountain Site

MAILING LIST – AGENCIES (continued)

Federal Aviation Administration
Northwest Mountain Office
1601 Lind Avenue SW
Renton, WA 98055-4056

Mr. Brad Bauer, Spec. Proj. Eng.
Div. of Highways and Transportation
100 Jefferson County Pkwy
Golden, CO 80419-3500

Mr. Zeke Zebauers, Dir.
Div. of Highways and Transportation
100 Jefferson County Pkwy, Ste. 3500
Golden, CO 80419-3500

Ms. Kathy Hartman
Jefferson County Commissioner
100 Jefferson County Parkway
Golden, CO 80419

Mr. Kevin McCasky
Jefferson County Commissioner
100 Jefferson County Parkway
Golden, CO 80419

Ms. Faye Griffin
Jefferson County Commissioner
100 Jefferson County Parkway
Golden, CO 80419

Mr. Jim Everson
Jefferson County Assessor
100 Jefferson County Parkway, Ste. 2500
Golden, CO 80419

Jefferson County Department of Health
Environmental Health Division
1801 19th St.
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Preston Gibson
Jefferson Economic Council
President & CEO
1667 Cole Blvd., Suite 400
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Tim McSherry
Jefferson County Emergency Management
800 Jefferson County Pkwy
Golden, CO 80419

Ms. Joy Lucisano, Manager
Jefferson County Open Space
Acquisitions
700 Jefferson County Pkwy., Ste. 100
Golden, CO 80419-5540

Mr. Ralph Schell, Director
Jefferson County Open Space
700 Jefferson County Pkwy, Ste. 100
Golden, CO 80419

Mr. Steve Snyder
Jefferson County Open Space
Assistant County Attorney
100 Jefferson County Pkwy
Golden, CO 80419-5540

Mr. Mike Schuster, Mgr.
Jefferson County Planning & Zoning
Planning and Engineering
100 Jefferson County Pkwy, Suite. 3550
Golden, CO 80419-3500

Patrick O'Connell, Geologist
Jefferson County Planning & Zoning
100 Jefferson County Pkwy, Suite 3550
Golden, CO 80419-3550

Dr. Cindy Stevenson, Supt.
Jefferson County Public Schools
1829 Denver West Drive
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Larry Benshoof, Director
Jefferson County Road & Bridge
21401 Golden Gate Canyon Rd.
Golden, CO 80403

Mr. Ted Mink, Sheriff
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
200 Jefferson County Pkwy
Golden, CO 80401-2679

Theresa Pfeifer
Metro Wastewater Reclamation Dist.
6450 York Street
Denver, CO 80229-7499

Mr. Curtis Cesspooch, Chairman
Northern Ute Indian Tribe
PO Box 190
Ft. Duchesene, UT 84026

Office of Representative Ed Perlmutter
12600 W. Colfax Ave., #B400
Lakewood, CO 80215

Senator Mark Udall
999 Eighteenth Street
North Tower, Suite 1525
Denver, CO 80202

Office of Senator Tim Bennet
2300 15th Street, Suite 450
Denver, CO 80202

Office of Representative Coffman
9220 Kimmer Dr. Suite #220
Lone Tree, CO 80124

Mr. Robert Pille, Director
Oglala Sioux Tribe
Environmental Protection
PO Box 2008
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

Mr. Chris Malmgren, Chief
Pleasant View Fire Department
955 Moss Street
Golden, CO 80401

Stewart McCallister, District Coordinator
Pleasant View Metro District
955 Moss Street
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. David Councilman
Pleasant View Water & Sanitation Dist.
955 Moss Street
Golden, CO 80401

Mr. Wally Pulliam
Regional Transportation District
District L
6622 Salvia Ct.
Arvada, CO 80007

Ms. Andrea Taylor, Director
Southern Ute Tribe
Tribal Information Services
PO Box 737
Ingacio, CO 81137

MAILING LIST – AGENCIES (continued)

Mr. Clement Frost, Chairman
Southern Ute Tribe
PO Box 737
Ingacio, CO 81137

Mr. Neil Cloud
Southern Ute Tribe
NAGPRA Coordinator
PO Box 737
Ingacio, CO 81137

State Historic Preservation Office
1300 Broadway-OAHP
Denver, CO 80203

Governor Bill Ritter
State of Colorado
136 State Capital
Denver, CO 80203-1792

Susan Linner, Colorado Field Supervisor
Fish & Wildlife Service
PO Box 25486-DFC (65412)
Denver, CO 80225

Mr. Edward Spence, District
Conservationist
National Resource Conservation Ser.
655 Parfet Street, Room E-300
Lakewood, CO 80215-5517

Ms. Betsy Chapoose
Uinta and Ouray Ute Indian Tribe
Cultural Rights and Protection
PO Box 190
Ft. Duchesene, UT 84026

Mr. Terry McKee
Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
9307 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80128-6901

Mr. Gregory Davis
US EPA - Region 8
Stormwater Coordinator; EPR-EP
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Mr. Bert Garcia, Director
US EPA - Region 8
Ecosystem Protection
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202-2405

Mr. Larry Svoboda
US EPA - Region 8
NEPA Compliance, 8EPR-N
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Mr. Manuel Heart, Chairman
Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council
PO Box JJ
Towaoc, CO 81334

MAILING LIST - BUSINESSES

Business and residences were notified via postal route mailing. The following postal route codes were notified:

- 80401 C07
- 80401 C08
- 80401 C09
- 80401 C18
- 80401 C24
- 80401 C25
- 80401 C27
- 80401 C29
- 80401 C30
- 80401 C33
- 80401 C37
- 80401 C41
- 80401 C42
- 80401 C46
- 80401 C47